

Message Text

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1107
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY
E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: UNGA SPECIAL SESSION, AFTERNOON MAY 1

SUMMARY. THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE AFTERNOON WAS THE BRITISH
STATEMENT WHICH DESCRIBED THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL AND
CLEARLY EXPLAINED ITS OBJECTIVES. THE BRITISH ALSO
SOUGHT TO DEFEND THE FIVE AGAINST ALLEGATIONS THAT
THE PROPOSAL HAD BEEN MODIFIED BY
"ASSURANCES AND CLARIFICATIONS" GIVEN TO SOUTH AFRICA.
ANGOLA'S FOREIGN MINISTER PRESENTED A STATEMENT THAT
CONTAINED NOTHING NEW. OTHER SPEAKERS WERE: NIGER,
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HONDURAS, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, JAMAICA, VIETNAM,
BOTSWANA, MAURITANIA, CAMEROON, UGANDA, BURUNDI, PLO,
AND THAILAND. END SUMMARY.

2. MAY 1 AFTERNOON MEETING OF UNGA SPECIAL SESSION
ON NAMIBIA OPENED WITH STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR POISSON
OF NIGER. HE SAID THAT "INCOMPREHENSIBLE PROCRASTINATION"

HAD LED TO A "WAR SITUATION" IN NAMIBIA. HE
DECRIED SOUTH AFRICA'S "SHAMELESS PLUNDERING" OF NAMIBIA.
POISSON DESCRIBED WALVIS BAY AS A VITAL ECONOMIC
OUTLET FOR AND INTEGRAL PART OF NAMIBIA. HE THOUGHT
WESTERN PROPOSAL HAD SOME MERIT, BUT URGED MUCH MORE
WESTERN PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA. POISSON SAID NO
SETTLEMENT COULD BE VIABLE UNLESS IT FELL
WITHIN UN AEGIS AND RECOGNIZED SWAPO AS THE SOLE AND
LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE.

3. AMBASSADOR MURRAY OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
STATED THAT THE WESTERN FIVE GOVERNMENTS "STAND FIRMLY
AND SQUARELY BEHIND RESOLUTION 385 AS THE BEST AND
INDEED ONLY WAY OF SECURING A FAIR AND JUST SOLUTION
AND AN EARLY TRANSFER OF POWER TO THE ELECTED
REPRESENTATIVES OF NAMIBIA." HE SINGLED OUT FREE AND
FAIR ELECTIONS UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF
THE UN AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE
TERRITORY AS TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF
THAT RESOLUTION. MURRAY STATED THAT "A PEACEFUL
SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA INEVITABLY REQUIRES ADJUSTMENTS
BY ALL PARTIES." HE SAW THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
AS HAVING TWO MAIN ROLES: "WATCHDOG OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY" AND THE "GUARANTOR THAT THE PROVISIONS OF
THE AGREEMENT WILL BE RESPECTED BY SOUTH AFRICA AND
BY ALL PARTIES."
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4. MURRAY EXPLAINED THAT THE SPECIAL REP WILL HAVE TO
SATISFY HIMSELF AS TO THE FAIRNESS AND APPROPRIATENESS
OF ALL MEASURES AFFECTING THE POLITICAL PROCESS
"BEFORE SUCH MEASURES TAKE EFFECT." MURRAY HOPED THAT
THE SPECIAL REP WOULD BUILD UP A "WORKING RELATION-
SHIP" WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL SO
THAT DISPUTES BETWEEN THE TWO OFFICIALS COULD BE
SETTLED INFORMALLY. MURRAY STATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE
SPECIAL REP WOULD BE ABLE TO "MAKE SURE THAT THE POLICE
FORCES WILL BEHAVE" DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD.

5. MURRAY NOTED THE WESTERN PROPOSAL CALLED FOR THE
WITHDRAWAL OVER THREE MONTHS OF "ALL BUT A SMALL
RESIDUAL FORCE OF 1500 SOUTH AFRICAN SOLDIERS, WHO
WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO GROOTFONTIEN OR OSHIVELLO OR
BOTH" AND WHO WOULD BE WITHDRAWN "ONE WEEK AFTER THE
CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION." HE POINTED OUT THAT
THE WESTERN PROPOSAL CALLS FOR A MILITARY SECTION OF THE
UN TRANSITION ASSISTANCE GROUP TO MAKE SURE THAT THIS
PROVISION OF THE AGREED SOLUTION WOULD BE OBSERVED
BY ALL PARTIES. MURRAY STATED THE VIEW THAT SUCH

A SMALL SOUTH AFRICAN FORCE, "CONFINED TO BASE AND CLOSELY MONITORED BY UNITED NATIONS MILITARY PERSONNEL, CANNOT POSSIBLY REPRESENT A THREAT TO FREEDOM OF THE ELECTION PROCESS."

6. MURRAY REJECTED ALLEGATIONS THAT THE "FINAL AND DEFINITIVE PROPOSAL" SUBMITTED TO ALL PARTIES AT THE END OF LAST MONTH HAS BEEN MODIFIED BY "ASSURANCES AND CLARIFICATIONS" GIVEN BY THE FIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA. HE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE "URGENT, ALMOST DESPERATE NEED FOR EARLY ACTION TO BRING ABOUT A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT," AND HE NOTED THAT THE ROOTS OF THE TENSION IN THE TERRITORY LAY IN "SOUTH AFRICA'S CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF
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THE TERRITORY AND THE ABSENCE SO FAR OF FREE AND DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY."

7. NOTING THAT SOUTH AFRICA HAS ACCEPTED THE WESTERN

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PROPOSAL, MURRAY SAID THAT THE WESTERN FIVE HAD "SOUGHT TO EXPLAIN TO SWAPO WHY WE SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT OUR PROPOSAL FULLY MEETS THEIR ESSENTIAL CONCERNS." HE EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE PROPOSAL WAS "A BALANCED PACKAGE WHICH WILL BRING ABOUT OUR COMMON OBJECTIVE OF FREE ELECTIONS LEADING TO EARLY INDEPENDENCE." MURRAY NOTED THAT LATER IN THE DAY THE WESTERN FIVE WOULD MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF SWAPO "TO PROVIDE ANY CLARIFICATIONS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED."

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8. EXTERNAL RELATIONS MINISTER JORGE OF ANGOLA SAID THAT THE "FASCIST AND FASCIST REGIME" IN SOUTH AFRICA HAD RECEIVED "MASSIVE SUPPORT" FROM "CERTAIN IMPERIALIST POWERS." HE SAID THAT THOSE VERY POWERS WERE ATTEMPTING A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT THAT DISREGARDS THE UN COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA. ASSERTING THAT THE ARMED STRUGGLE BY SWAPO WAS A DECISIVE FACTOR IN BRINGING ABOUT THE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA, HE REAFFIRMED ANGOLA'S "MILITANT SUPPORT" FOR SWAPO. JORGE DENOUNCED SOUTH AFRICA'S ATTEMPT TO ANNEX WALVIS BAY, AN INTEGRAL PART OF NAMIBIA, AND HE DENOUNCED ALL MANEUVERS TO DIVIDE NAMIBIA ON A "TRIBAL BASIS" OR TO IMPOSE AN "INTERNAL SETTLEMENT." HE DECLARED THAT ANGOLA WOULD GIVE SWAPO LOGISTICAL FACILITIES AND ALL NECESSARY SUPPORT AND EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE VICTORY OF SWAPO IS CERTAIN.

9. AMBASSADOR CARIAS OF HONDURAS LAUNCHED A STANDARD ATTACK ON THE "INTRANSIGENT AND OPPRESSIVE POLICIES" OF SOUTH AFRICA. HE APPROVED THE LUSAKA DECLARATION AND CALLED FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES FROM NAMIBIA BEFORE ELECTIONS, THE RELEASE OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THE RETURN OF EXILES TO NAMIBIA, THE EXERCISE OF PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY BY THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA, AND THE INDEPENDENCE OF ALL OF NAMIBIA, "INCLUDING WALVIS BAY." IN MENTIONING THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL, CARIAS SAID THAT THE "DOORS TO DIALOGUE" SHOULD NOT BE CLOSED, BUT THAT MEMBER STATES SHOULD STAND FIRM AND CLARIFY

MATTERS STANDING IN THE WAY OF THE ELECTORAL PROGRAM.

10. UAE REP SAMHAN CALLED SWAPO THE "SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NAMIBIA PEOPLE." HE INDICATED UNCLASSIFIED

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A CERTAIN DEGREE OF SUPPORT FOR WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE BUT ASKED IF THE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA WOULD ACCORD WITH THE WISHES OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE OR THE WISHES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT. SAMHAN SUPPORTED SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385 AND THE LUSAKA DECLARATION. HE PRAISED THE FLEXIBILITY OF SWAPO AND SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD SUPPORT IN EVERY WAY, MORALLY AND MATERIALLY.

11. JAMAICAN REP PIERCE ALSO TERMED SWAPO THE "SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE" AND EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR SC RES 385 AND THE LUSAKA DECLARATION. HE MAINTAINED THAT WALVIS BAY IS AN "INTEGRAL PART" OF NAMIBIA. "IN PRINCIPLE" HE SUPPORTED A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, BUT NOTED THAT THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL OMITTS ANY REFERENCE TO WALVIS BAY. HE QUESTIONED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL, AND NOTED LACK OF REFERENCE TO THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA. PIERCE EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR SAM NUJOMA'S STATEMENT OF APRIL 28. HE WARNED AGAINST THE "SHAM OF AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT."

12. VIETNAMESE REP NGUYEN NGOC VU MADE A STANDARD POLEMICAL ATTACK AGAINST THE "NEO-COLONIALISTS" AND "IMPERIALIST POWERS," WHO WERE THE MAJOR OBSTACLE TO NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE. HE DECLARED THAT SWAPO IS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE AND THAT ALL ATTEMPTS TO GIVE STATUS TO SOUTH AFRICAN "PUPPETS" SHOULD BE REJECTED. VU CALLED FOR RESPECT FOR NAMIBIA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, INCLUDING WALVIS BAY, AND FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS FROM ALL NAMIBIA'S TERRITORY. VU TRUSTED THAT SWAPO WOULD "INEVITABLY SUCCEED" IN ITS STRUGGLE.

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13. AMBASSADOR TLOU OF BOTSWANA STATED THAT WALVIS BAY WAS IN INTEGRAL PART OF NAMIBIA AND THAT THE WESTERN FIVE SHOULD DECLARE IT AS SUCH. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW SECURITY PROCLAMATION, HE ALLEGED, WAS MERELY A STEPPING-STONE TO AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA AND "MUST BE CONDEMNED." BOTSWANA CAUTIOUSLY WELCOMED THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL, HE CONTINUED, BUT URGED THAT THE MOMENTUM OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BE MAINTAINED.

14. AMBASSADOR EL HASSAN OF MAURITANIA STATED THAT
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THE WESTERN FIVE HAD PUBLISHED A VIABLE PROPOSAL FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE NAMIBIA PROBLEM. HE ASSERTED, HOWEVER, THAT WALVIS BAY WAS AN INTEGRAL PART OF NAMIBIA, AND HE REAFFIRMED HIS COUNTRY'S SUPPORT FOR SWAPO.

15. THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON, JEAN KEUTCHA, CONDEMNED ANY INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA AND REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT FOR SWAPO. HE

CONSIDERED THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL TOO NARROW, ESPECIALLY SINCE IT LEFT A GREAT UNCERTAINTY ABOUT WALVIS BAY. FURTHER, THE ROLE OF THE POLICE WAS TOO BROAD AND THE HIERARCHIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL SHOULD BE CLEARLY SPELLED OUT. HE CONCLUDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL WAS A "NOTEWORTHY CONTRIBUTION."

16. AMBASSADOR KINENE OF UGANDA SAID THAT THE WESTERN FIVE PROPOSAL WAS ONLY ONE OF THE WEST'S MANY "TACTICS" AIMED AT "HOODWINKING" SWAPO AND PREEMPTING THE SPECIAL SESSION. HE DEMANDED THAT THE ISSUE OF WALVIS BAY BE SETTLED WHILE NAMIBIA WAS STILL "UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE UN." HE REAFFIRMED THAT SWAPO WAS THE "SOLE AND AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE" OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE.

17. AMBASSADOR SIMBANANIYE OF BURUNDI SEVERELY CRITICIZED SOUTH AFRICA. HIS GOVERNMENT RECEIVED THE WESTERN FIVE INITIATIVE WITH INTEREST, HE SAID, AND HOPED THAT THE FIVE WOULD SEEK TO ADOPT MEASURES THAT WOULD PREVENT SOUTH AFRICA FROM PERPETUATING ITS PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA. HE REMARKED THAT THERE WERE GAPS IN THE WESTERN FIVE PRO-

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POSAL THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE CLOSED AND, IN THIS REGARD, URGED THAT THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS BE CONTINUED.

18. THE PLO PERMANENT OBSERVER COMPARED NAMIBIA WITH THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE CALLED FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS AND CONVEYED THE "MILITANT SUPPORT" OF YASSIR ARAFAT TO SAM NUJOMA.

19. AMBASSADOR GUNA-KASEM OF THAILAND INDICATED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE WESTERN FIVE AND URGED THAT THEY CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. YOUNG

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